

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jean Michel MARTIN et al.
Title: LOW-FRICTION SLIDING MECHANISM, LOW-FRICTION AGENT
COMPOSITION AND METHOD OF FRICTION REDUCTION
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: 02/06/2006
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of documents A18-A22 and A38-A46 is described in the present specification.

Document A23 discloses a sliding member and its production.

Document A36 discloses an adjusting shim.

Document A37 discloses a surface protection process for internal combustion engine pistons.

Documents A28-A35 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during a search of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

Documents A13 and A21 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A14 and A22 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A15 and A30 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A16 and A31 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A17 and A34 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A19 and A25 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A26 and A33 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Documents A27 and A32 belong to the same “patent family,” whereby the English language document may assist the PTO in understanding the content of the non-English language document.

Unless otherwise indicated, no English translation is readily available (not considering machine-generated translations that may be freely available online, to both the Applicant and the PTO) for each of the non-English language documents. However, a commercially available English language abstract is provided herewith, where indicated on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. Inasmuch as Applicants have endeavored to provide at least one item that complies with the requirement for a “concise explanation of relevance” for each of the non-English language documents, each of these documents has been submitted in compliance with the PTO requirements and should be considered by the Examiner (37 CFR §1.97, §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

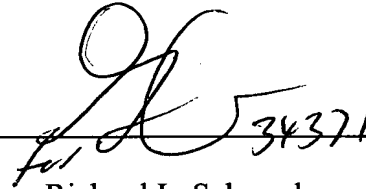
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 6, 2006

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5414
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Schwaab", written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the number "34371" is handwritten.

Richard L. Schwaab
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 25,479

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~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ ~~06 FEB 2006~~
Complete if Known

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: February 6, 2006 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete If Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	02/06/2006
				First Named Inventor	Jean Michel MARTIN
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	023971-0642

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,843,571		SHO	12-01-1998	
	A2	5,466,431		DORFMAN ET AL.	11-14-1995	
	A3	5,190,824		ITOH	03-02-1993	
	A4	4,783,368		YAMAMOTO ET AL.	11-08-1988	
	A5	4,755,426		KOKAI ET AL.	07-05-1988	
	A6	5,205,188		REPENNING ET AL.	04-27-1993	
	A7	5,077,990		PLATH	01-07-1992	
	A8	4,554,208		MACIVER ET AL.	11-19-1985	
	A9	6,237,441	B1	NISHIOKA ET AL.	05-29-2001	
	A10	5,249,554		TAMOR ET AL.	10-05-1993	
	A11	5,237,967		WILLERMET ET AL.	08-24-1993	
	A12	4,974,498		LEMELSON	12-04-1990	
	A13	2004/0171500	A1	MORITA	09-02-2004	
	A14	5,906,557		KOBAYASHI	05-25-1999	
	A15	6,844,068	B1	MIYAKE ET AL.	01-18-2005	
	A16	6,333,298	B1	WADDOUPS ET AL.	12-25-2001	
	A17	6,806,242	B2	SHIRAHAMA ET AL.	10-19-2004	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A18	JP	2000-192951	A	NTN TOYO BEARING CO., LTD.	07-11-2000		Abst.
	A19	JP	6-200274	A	TONEN CORP.	07-19-1994		Abst.
	A20	JP	11-181463	A	COSMO SOGO KENKYUSHO KK, ET AL.	07-06-1999		Abst.
	A21	JP	2003-082377	A	NIPPON OIL CORP.	03-19-2003		Abst.
	A22	JP	10-166877	A	FUJI HEAVY IND. LTD.	06-23-1998		Abst.
	A23	JP	7-090553	A	SHOJIRO MIYAKE ET AL.	04-04-1995		Transl.
	A24	EP	0 731 190	B1	GENERAL MOTORS CORP.	05-06-1999		
	A25	EP	0 677 570	A1	TONEN CORP.	10-18-1995		
	A26	WO	92/02602	A1	EXXON CHEMICAL PATENTS INC.	02-20-1992		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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10/567139

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	023971-0642

Sheet	2	of	3
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A27	WO	93/21289	A1	EXXON CHEMICAL PATENTS INC.	10-28-1993		
	A28	JP	2001-192864	A	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES	07-17-2001		Abst.
	A29	JP	2001-316686	A	SHOJIRO MIYAKE ET AL.	11-16-2001		Abst.
	A30	JP	2000-297373	A	SHOJIRO MIYAKE ET AL.	10-24-2000		Abst.
	A31	JP	2003-505533	A		02-12-2003		Abst.
	A32	JP	7-508049	A		09-07-1995		Abst.
	A33	JP	5-509125	A		12-16-1993		Abst.
	A34	JP	2003-238982	A	NIPPON OIL CORP., ET AL.	08-27-2003		Abst.
	A35	JP	2004-155891	A	NIPPON OIL CORP., ET AL.	06-03-2004		Abst.
	A36	JP	6-294307	A	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES	10-21-1994		Abst.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A37	E. Meyer-Rässler – "Neuartige Laufflächen-Schutzverfahren für Kolben von Verbrennungsmotoren," VDI – Zeitschrift Bd. 86 Nr. 15/16, April 18, 1942.	
	A38	Kano et al., Proceedings of Japan Tribology Society, May 1999, pages 11 and 12.	
	A39	Kano et al., Proceedings of World Tribology Congress, September 2001, page 342.	
	A40	International Standard, "Petroleum products – Determination of base number – Perchloric acid potentiometric titration method," ISO 3771, 8-15-1994, pages 1-8.	
	A41	"Standard Test Method for Separation of Representative Aromatics and Nonaromatics Fractions of High-Boiling Oils by Elution Chromatography," ASTM Designation: D2549-91, 1995, pages 895-900.	
	A42	Japanese Industrial Standard, "High carbon chromium bearing steels," JIS G 4805, 1999, pages 1-31.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Sheet	3	of	3
		Attorney Docket Number	023971-0642

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A43	Japanese Industrial Standard, "Chromium Molybdenum Steels," JIS G 4105, 1979, pages 1-11.	
	A44	Japanese Industrial Standard, "Chromium Steels," JIS G 4104, 1979, pages 1-9.	
	A45	Japanese Industrial Standard, "Aluminium alloy castings," JIS H 5202, 1999, pages 1-17.	
	A46	Japanese Industrial Standard, "Aluminium alloy die castings," JIS H 5302, 2000, pages 1-12.	

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